

to unlock up to \$20,000 worth of equity which they could use to maintain the business, retain jobs, or purchase new equipment to help the business grow again.

There was very little immediate impact for small businesses from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. Banks' inability and sometimes unwillingness to assist small businesses will continue for some time and we must act now to help small businesses stay afloat. My bill assists small businesses by providing SBA guarantees for a portion of certain loans coordinated through Certified Development Companies (CDCs). These non-profit organizations work with local lenders to provide secure SBA-backed loans to small businesses. The SBA then guarantees a portion of the loan, reducing the risk to lenders and dramatically increasing small businesses' access to capital. Until this bill, CDC loans were only available for new businesses or business expansion; but with this bill these loans would be available to refinance existing debt. By refinancing small businesses will continue to be current on their existing loans with SBA lenders. The lack of access to working capital depresses small businesses, resulting in a corresponding increase in unemployment rates.

In today's economy, small businesses are struggling. My bill assists small businesses to pull themselves up without any government handout or bailout. They will be able to refinance their current debt so that they can invest in new facilities, equipment, or hire additional workers. I urge all members to support the Small Business AID Bill.

CONGRATULATING DR. STUART COHEN ON HIS PRESIDENTIAL TERM OF THE SAN DIEGO COUNTY MEDICAL SOCIETY

HON. BRIAN P. BILBRAY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2009

Mr. BILBRAY. Madam Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Dr. Stuart Cohen on his term as the 138th President of the San Diego County Medical Society (SDCMS). As America faces the difficult challenges of addressing health care reform, it is reassuring that there are leaders like Dr. Cohen in positions of influence to help our nation craft policies that will bring quality and accessible health care to all Americans.

The San Diego County Medical Society, representing over 8,000 physicians in San Diego County, is a non-profit organization founded in 1870. SDCMS is chartered by the California Medical Association and affiliated with the American Medical Association (AMA). The mission of SDCMS is to promote the science and art of medicine, the quality care and wellbeing of patients, the protection of the public health, the betterment of the medical profession, and the adjudication of ethical relations to its members, as well as the provision of education to its members in scientific, social, legal, and medico-economic aspects of medical practice.

Dr. Cohen received his medical degree in 1981 from the University of Manitoba and served his internship and residency at the Health Sciences Center at Children's Hospital in Winnipeg, Canada. Dr. Cohen is board cer-

tified in pediatrics and has been a member of Children's Primary Care Medical Group since 1996.

Dr. Cohen has been an active member of the San Diego County Medical Society and the California Medical Association since 1988 and the American Medical Association since 1994. He has served on numerous committees as a CMA delegate, an AMA delegate, as well as the SDCMS Board of Directors, Executive and Finance Committees and the San Diego Physician magazine Editorial Board. Dr. Cohen is also a member of numerous medical societies including the American Academy of Pediatrics—San Diego Chapter and the American Academy of Pediatrics.

Dr. Cohen is well respected by his peers as evidenced by the fact he was selected as a San Diego "Top Doctor" for the last four years. On a personal note, I have benefited immensely from Dr. Cohen's wise counsel on how to craft effective health care policy for all San Diegans.

Let history show that this year will be the year Congress makes progress on health reform. Americans are demanding we put partisan differences aside and devise a health care system that covers all Americans, puts patients first and ensures the highest quality.

With influential leaders such as Dr. Stuart Cohen leading the fight, I feel confident Congress will craft sensible health care policy.

AMERICAN ASSOCIATION OF
STATE HIGHWAY TRANSPOR-
TATION OFFICIALS

HON. ROBERT WEXLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 20, 2009

Mr. WEXLER. Madam Speaker, as cochair of the Congressional Caucus on Global Road Safety, I would like to extend my appreciation and sincerest thanks to the Board of Directors of the American Association of State Highway Transportation Officials (AASHTO), who recently passed a policy resolution in support of House Concurrent Resolution 74, a resolution introduced by myself and my fellow Caucus cochairs, Congressman CHRIS VAN HOLLEN and Congressman DAN BURTON, supporting the goals and ideals of a decade of action for road safety with a global target to reduce by 50 percent the predicted increase in global road deaths between 2010 and 2020 and urging the Obama administration to take a leadership role at the First Ministerial Conference on Road Safety in Moscow later this year.

My fellow cochairs and I believe it is critical that the United States work with nations around the world to achieve the goals and ideals of a decade of action for road safety and to reduce the impact of this health epidemic on the global community, and I sincerely appreciate AASHTO's support for this resolution and for their efforts to work with the Global Road Safety Caucus to educate Members of Congress on the issue of road safety. To that end, I encourage all of my colleagues to review the text of AASHTO's resolution, which I am including in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

POLICY RESOLUTION PR-2-09 SUPPORTING
HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION 74

Whereas, AASHTO and its members departments remain fully committed to reduc-

ing the number of deaths on our Nation's roads as evidenced by current AASHTO policy positions and efforts to implement AASHTO's Strategic Highway Safety Plan, including the adoption by the Board of Directors in December, 1997 and revised and updated in December, 2004, a goal to reduce fatalities by half in 20 years;

Whereas, According to the 2004 World Report on Road Traffic Injury Prevention, 40,000 people on the United States and 1,300,000 people globally die in road crashes each year;

Whereas, Another 20,000,000 to 50,000,000 people globally are injured each year as a result of speeding motor vehicles and the increased use of motor vehicles;

Whereas, Road crashes are the leading cause of death globally for young people between the ages of 10 and 24 years;

Whereas, The current estimated monetary cost of motor vehicles crashes worldwide is greater than \$500,000,000,000 annually, representing between 3 and 5 percent of the gross domestic product of each nation;

Whereas, According to the World Health Organization, over 90 percent of motorist-related deaths occur in low- and middle-income countries;

Whereas, According to the World Health Organization, motorist related deaths and cost continue to rise in these countries due to a lack of appropriate road engineering and injury prevention programs in public health sectors;

Whereas, The United States, United Nations, and international community should promote the improvement of data collection and comparability, including adopting the standard definition of a road death as "any person killed immediately or dying within 30 days as a result of a road traffic crash" and the facilitation of international cooperation to develop reliable data systems and analytical capability;

Whereas, It is critical that the international community support collaborative action to enhance global road safety and reduce the risk of road crash death and injury around the world by fostering partnerships and cooperation between governments, private and public sectors, professional associations, and within civil society, as well as relationships among the Federal Highway Administration, the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration and other national and international road safety authorities;

Whereas, The United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution in 2005 designating the third Sunday of November as a day of remembrance for road crash victims and their families and calling on nations globally to improve road safety;

Whereas, The United States Congress passed H. Con. Res. 87, as well as S. Con. Res. 39 in the 110th Congress supporting the goals and ideals of a world day of remembrance for road crash victims;

Whereas, The United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution in 2008 highlighting the impact global road safety issues, encouraging nations to take action to reduce road crash risks across the world and creating the first global high-level conference on road safety in Moscow in November 2009;

Whereas, The Ministerial Consultative Committee of the First Global Ministerial Conference on Road Safety on Moscow has drafted a declaration to designate 2010–2020 as the "Decade of Action for Global Road Safety"; now, therefore be it

Resolved, By the American Association of State Highway and Transportation Officials that AASHTO supports the goals and ideals of a decade of action for global road safety with a global target to reduce by 50 percent the predicted increase in global road deaths between 2010 and 2020; be it further